



Charlotte Mason's House of Education,  
Scale How, Ambleside, UK, 2009

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## OUR WORK.

*Conference.*—The annual conference will be held on May 9th, 10th, 11th, and 12th, 1899. Full particulars of detailed arrangements will be notified in due course.

*Natural History Club.*—The special subject selected for this year is "The Stars," and a pamphlet containing outlines for a course of study on astronomy, with suggestions for children's work and list of books will be sent to members. Subscription 2s. 6d., payable to Miss Blogg, 28, Victoria Street.

*The Natural History Club Exhibition* will be held in London at the same time as the annual conference.

*Translation Society.*—Subscription 1s. 6d. For particulars apply to Miss C. A. Rooper, Pen Selwood, Bournemouth.

*Literary Society.*—It is proposed to arrange a society for promoting an interest in English literature, by the study of passages from classical authors. For each month in the year some passage, either of prose or poetry, will be chosen, and questions on that passage will be set. The subscription will be 1s. 6d. per annum. Any lady wishing to join is requested to send her subscription to Miss Blogg, 28, Victoria Street, London, S.W. Particulars apply to Miss C. A. Rooper, Pen Selwood, Bournemouth.

*Parents' Review School.*—As the Easter term is so short the examination papers will not be sent out till March 22nd, thus allowing till March the 29th for the examination. The Christmas examination papers will be returned on receipt of postage.

### HOUSE OF EDUCATION.

Report on the Nature Note Books, Christmas, 1898.

#### CLASS I.

- |                       |                      |
|-----------------------|----------------------|
| 1. R. A. GRAVES       | 3. R. A. PENNETHORNE |
| 2. E. M. E. WILKINSON | 4. ETHEL ARMITAGE    |

#### CLASS II.

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|-------------------|------------------|
| 5. E. WINGATE     | 9. M. G. GAYFORD |
| 6. E. O. WILLIAMS | 10. M. AMBLER    |
| 7. LUCY M. GORE   | 11. E. BEVIS     |
| 8. F. ARMITAGE    | 12. L. MAGILL    |

#### CLASS III.

- |                     |                  |
|---------------------|------------------|
| 13. M. BUTLER       | 16. H. M. STUBBS |
| 14. E. H. ALLEN     | 17. K. J. ROSS   |
| 15. G. M. MACKENZIE |                  |

I have received this year seventeen books (1 in July and 16 in December) and place them in order of merit as above. The improvement in the general standard of work noticed in last year's report is very well maintained, the first class, though small in number, being exceptionally strong in both drawing and lecture work—Miss Graves' drawings of both flowers and insects, and Miss Wilkinson's of insects, are very good



indeed. I notice with much pleasure that two methods of enriching the note books are used now for the first time—drawing the leaves of trees of the natural size, and introducing original examples derived from the student's own observation in illustration of the lecture notes. Many of the lecture notes are very well expressed, and show not only great interest in, but also thorough understanding of the subject taught.

Jan. 19th, 1899.

HERBERT D. GELDART.

## BOOKS.

*Girls' Physical Training*, by A. R. James (Macmillan, 7/6), being a series of healthy and artistic exercises set to music. Here we have ball drills, ring drills, dumb-bell drills, marches, &c., with such exact instructions for every movement, and such capital illustrations, that the work should be especially useful in families where the technical details of physical training are a little difficult to arrive at. The introduction and the explanatory chapter are wise and thoughtful, and should be especially useful to teachers.

*Good Morning, Good Night*, by F. J. Cross (second edition) (Cassell and Co.) Earnest readings for little people for morning and evening for a month, with many little tales which should stimulate the children to virtuous endeavour and earnest Christian life.

*The Temple Reader* (second edition), by E. Speight (Marshall, 1/6). We have pleasure in welcoming a new edition of Mr. Speight's *Temple Reader*. We have already expressed our keen appreciation of Mr. Speight's *Temple Reader*. The volume will be meat and drink to many a child with the true literary hunger upon him. Nothing is too good for children, we should think, is Mr. Speight's motto, and we get extracts which are introductions from the best that we have. Probably there is nothing in the volume that is not *literature*, served up, too, without any teasing notes and explanations. The present edition is enriched by an introduction from Professor Dowden, in which he says, "to have even heard of Cervantes, of Dante, of Spenser, of Keats, is a step in education." We entirely agree, and hence the value of this important volume. The present edition is an introduction to pictorial art as well as to literary. It contains beautiful reproductions of Hilton's Keats, Hazlitt's Lamb, Talfourd's Mrs. Browning, Michael Angelo's Moses, etc., etc.

*Twenty-four Songs for Little People*, by G. F. Cobb (Parts I. and II., 2/6 each, Novello). It is not easy to write songs for little people, but Norman Gale has the art.

"When Aunt Jan's coming there's such romping in the house,  
She's sweeter than a daffodil and softer than a mouse;  
She sings about the passages and never wants to rest,  
And father says it's all because a bird is in her breast."

—Baby Ned, too, is a delightful person. Mr. Gerard F. Cobb has done his work sympathetically. His aim has been "to observe such conditions in his settings as to make it easy for children to join in singing them themselves." These songs will be an acquisition for the nursery.

THE "P.

*The School Music Review*,  
songs in both notations suitable  
*The Pianoforte*, by Francis

well-graduated instruction book  
teach the pupil, but to teach the

*Six Italian Songs*, arranged  
glad to welcome a good colle

by Italian composers, with Itali  
*Novello's School Songs* (6d.  
sol-fa and staff notation.

*The Everyday Songs* will b  
schools.

*The Twelve Action Songs*  
kindergarten songs—pretty and

*The Hours*, by Joseph Roe  
easy soli and choruses, espec

that the tonic sol-fa notation is  
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THE "P.R

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DEAR EDITOR,—Dr. Scho

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*The School Music Review*, issued month by month, contains capital songs in both notations suitable for children of various ages.

*The Pianoforte*, by Francisco Berger (Novello, 2/6). A thorough and well-graduated instruction book, its purpose evidently being, not only to teach the pupil, but to teach the teacher how to teach.

*Six Italian Songs*, arranged by G. Stainer (Novello, 2/6). We are very glad to welcome a good collection of songs from operas and cantatas by Italian composers, with Italian and English words.

*Novello's School Songs* (6d. each) give useful instruction in both tonic sol-fa and staff notation.

*The Everyday Songs* will be very welcome to teachers of classes in schools.

*The Twelve Action Songs*, by Miles Foster, are in the style of kindergarten songs—pretty and simple.

*The Hours*, by Joseph Roeckel. A cantata for female voices, with easy soli and choruses, especially suited for school concerts. The fact that the tonic sol-fa notation is added will make it welcome to teachers of schools.

## THE "P.R." LETTER BAG.

[*The Editor is not responsible for the opinions of Correspondents.*]

DEAR EDITOR,—Dr. Schofield's paper on "The Philosophy of Education" has been read by me with great interest and admiration. We parents owe him very hearty thanks for his able advocacy of many educational ideas which, though not new in themselves (is anything really new?), have been swamped by the drive and competition introduced into child and school life during the last thirty or forty years.

But I am curious to know whether my experience as a mother is quite exceptional. Dr. Schofield, on page 92 of the February *Parents' Review*, says: "A little child is *fluid*, plastic, receptive," and speaks in the same paragraph of pouring it into a mould, that same mould being its environment. Now, Dr. Schofield is a man, and probably a busy one, and we may therefore reasonably conclude that he has not personally attended to the ways and doings of very young children, except such as come under his care as patients. These, being little invalids, may be very rightly described as "fluid, plastic, receptive," and probably during their interview with the doctor fear and trembling may have reduced their spirits and squashed their individuality. But of none of my children—now all adults—could I say at any time that they answered to Dr. Schofield's description. What about the fluidity, plasticity and receptivity of the baby five weeks old, who will scream till exhausted rather than lie in its cot? who wails piercingly every time it is washed, however gently and warmly; who later on has to be held between your knees while his hair is brushed, and who, at twelve, cannot be induced by any devices, by hunger or stripes, to return *punctually* to his dinner. He was afflicted with diphtheria at seven, and it took two people to hold him while the doctor painted his throat. Are